

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 SR-02 ORM-03 OMB-01 EB-11

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R 250948 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1906

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0275

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS ECON SOCI MZ

SUBJ: VISIT TO ALDEAMENTOS IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

1. CONSULS GENERAL OF U. S., BRAZIL, AND U. K., AND HONORARY CONSUL FOR NETHERLANDS WERE INVITED BY GOVERNOR GENERAL TO VISIT ALDEAMENTOS IN THREE NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF MOZAMBIQUE, APRIL 14-18. TRIP RESULTED FROM REQUEST BY BRAZILIAN CONGEN OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE MARTINS SANTARENO WHO ACCOMPANIED CONGENS THROUGHOUT.

2. ITINERARY INCLUDED VISITS TO PORTO AMELIA, MOCIMBOA DA PRAIA, NANGADE, AND MONTEPUEZ IN CABO DELGADO DISTRICT; VILA
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CABRAL IN NIASA; SONGO AND CABORA BASSA IN TETE. WE TRAVELED BY LANDROVER WITHIN RADIUS OF UP TO 40 KMS. OUTSIDE ABOVE- NAMED TOWNS IN CABO DELGADO AND NIASA, VISITING OR DRIVING THROUGH SOME THREE DOZEN ALDEAMENTOS IN THE PROCESS.

ALSO SAW COLONATO SCHEMES OUTSIDE MONTEPUEZ AND VILA CABRAL. DURING AIR TAXI FLIGHTS BETWEEN TOWNS AND DISTRICTS, PASSED OVER MANY ALDEAMENTOS. TRIP ENDED WITH LOW ALTITUDE CIVILIAN HELICOPTER FLIGHT OVER ALDEAMENTOS BETWEEN TETE TOWNSHIP, CHANGARA AND MACHINANGA ON RHODESIAN BORDER, FOLLOWED EARLY NEXT MORNING BY ROAD TRIP AS PART OF REGULAR MILITARY CONVOY FROM TETE TO SONGO, AND VISIT TO CABORA BASSA.

3. SIDES OF TETE- SONGO ROAD CLEARED OF UNDERBRUSH FOR FROM 50 TO 100 YARDS, HENCE DIFFICULT TO MOUNT EFFECTIVE CLOSE-RANGE AMBUSH. DESPITE RECENT COMPLETION (JULY 1972), PAVED ROAD ALREADY SHOWS MANY SIGNS OF WEAR AND TEAR.

4. CABORA BASSA PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE. ALL FIVE TURBINES BEING INSTALLED IN UNDERGROUND CHAMBER. CONCRETE SIDEWALLS OF DAM CONSTRUCTED UP TO HALF HEIGHT. PATHWAYS FOR POWER LINES CLEARED ALL THE WAY FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO DAM SITE, AND SOME PYLONS BEING ERECTED.

5. ALL ALDEAMENTOS HAD COMMON CHARACTERISTICS: EACH HAD WATER FOUNTAIN, PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FIRST AID DISPENSARY AS POLES OF ATTRACTION. MORE ADVANCED VERSIONS ALSO INCLUDED SOCIAL CENTER, ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS AND STORES. ALMOST NONE WERE SURROUNDED BY BARBED WIRE OR HAD OTHER VISIBLE DEFENSE STRUCTURES. HOWEVER, MOCIMBOA DA PRAIA, NANGADE, AND, WE WERE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND, OTHER ALDEAMENTOS IN THE NORTHERN WAR ZONES ARE PROTECTED IN SUCH MANNER. IN NON- WAR ZONES EACH ALDEAMENTO HAD TEN TO FIFTEEN ARMED MILITIA ON DUTY, IN NIASSA APPARENTLY MOST SUCH GROUPS WERE COMMANDED BY SINGLE WHITE POLICE OFFICER. WE WERE TOLD THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF EIGHT ALDEAMENTOS ALONG ROVUMA RIVER BORDER, AND A FEW LIKE MUEDA, LURA WHICH WERE ESTABLISHED BY ARMED FORCES IN WAR ZONES DURING HEIGHT OF MILITARY ACTION, ALL ALDEAMENTOS WERE CONSTRUCTED BY INHABITANTS THEMSELVES UNDER CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION, ALTHOUGH MILITARY FREQUENTLY COOPERATE BY PROVIDING TRANSPORT AND MATERIALS WHEN NEEDED. IN ANSWER TO OUR QUERY WHETHER INHABITANTS WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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HAPPY ABOUT BEING RESETTLED, PORTUGUESE HOSTS ANSWERED, " THEY AREN' T TRYING TO LEAVE." CONSENSUS SEEMS TO BE THAT WHERE RESETTLEMENT ACCOMPLISHED WITH ADEQUATE ADVANCE PREPARATION AND NOT UNDER TOO MUCH PRESSURE, OPPOSITION TO MOVING IS MINIMAL. NO SIGN OF DEFOLIATION EITHER FROM GROUND OR AIR.

6. LATEST FIGURES PROVIDED US FOR THREE AREAS VISITED ARE:
CABO DELGADO - 240 ALDEAMENTOS WITH AN ESTIMATED 300,000 INHABITANTS; NIASSA - 120 ALDEAMENTOS WITH APPROXIMATELY 186,450 INHABITANTS; TETE - 155 ALDEAMENTOS WITH APPROXIMATELY 152,000 INHABITANTS. THESE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE

ALDEAMENTOS TO BE BUILT THIS YEAR OR ANY ALDEAMENTOS IN
VILA PEREIRA, BEIRA, OR ZAMBESIA DISTRICTS.

7. COMMENT: TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BRIEFNESS AND OFFICIAL
PORTUGUESE SPONSORSHIP OF EXPOSURE, ONE CANNOT BUT BE IMPRESSED
BY PORTUGUESE EFFORT IN PUSHING THROUGH PROGRAM OF SUCH SIZE
AND COMPLEXITY IN FACE OF MANY DIFFICULTIES INCLUDING SCAR-
CITY OF FUNDS AND MATERIALS, LACK OF COOPERATION IN INITIAL
STAGES BY POPULATION IN SOME AREAS, AND GUERRILLA HARASS-
MENT. DEDICATION OF SOME OF THE LOCAL PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS,
PARTICULARLY AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS, FULLY COMPARABLE TO
THAT OF BRITISH AND FRENCH DISTRICT OFFICERS IN THEIR FORMER
AFRICAN TERRITORIES DURING COMPARABLE STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT
PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE.
VAN OSS

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